



The City of Raleigh

## Stormwater Management Advisory Commission

October 5, 2017  
3:00 pm

Conference Room 305  
Raleigh Municipal Building

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**Commission Members Present:** Matthew Starr, Ken Carper, Vanessa Fleischmann, David Webb, Chris Bostic, Mark Senior, and Francine Durso

**Commission Members Absent:** Evan Kane and Kevin Yates

**Staff Members Present:** Blair Hinkle, Kelly Daniel, Suzette Mitchell, Dale Hyatt, Wenju Zhang, Scott Bryant, Veronica High, Kristin Freeman, Scott Smith, Ben Brown, Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Pete Duffy, Justin Harcum, Kevin Boyer, Carrie Mitchell, Janet Boyer, and Jason Palivoda

**Guests:** Chris Stanley, Keith Compson, Jon Becker, Tony Grubbs, Jim Alberque, and Tim Burr

**Meeting called to order:** at 3:01 pm by Matthew Starr (*chair*)

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Excused Absences**

- **Mr. Senior** made a motion to excuse Evan Kane and Kevin Yates from today's meeting and **Mr. Bostic** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. **Approval of the Minutes – September 7, 2017 Meeting**

- **Mr. Webb** made a motion to approve the minutes and **Mr. Senior** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Stormwater Staff Report – Blair Hinkle**

- **Staffing Update**
  - New Inspector - Jason Palivoda (*Engineer Specialist*)
  - New Development Plan Reviewer - Janet Boyer (*Senior Engineer*)
- **Policy Initiative Updates**
  - Lake Preservation Policy – *Remains in City Attorney's Office for review.*
  - Erosion Sediment Control – *Currently bringing the text changes up-to-date with State law. Staff is working to prepare text changes to go through the authorization process.*
  - Guidelines for Land Disturbing Manual – *Will present at next Commission meeting and also will go through the text change process.*
  - Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual – *Updates will be incorporated into the stormwater design manual.*
  - Stormwater Cost Share Policy – *Discussion on design parameters at December's Commission meeting.*
- **Duke Energy Diesel Spill**

**Pete Duffy** (*Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Coordinator*) provided the Commission with a summary of the diesel spill at Duke Energy. The Fire Department notified staff that Duke Energy generators (*Wilmington Street*) had discharged 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel in the storm

system on October 1. Pete worked with the Raleigh Fire Department to contain the spill. Some of the sheen from the spill was located at Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd. at the head of the culvert and most was located at Chavis Park (*between East St. and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.*). Once the consultants (*hired by Duke Energy*) arrived, we checked and found the product was in the storm system and a great majority in the outfall. Our evaluation determined that it was a hose rupture from a generator that kicked on the pump, which started losing pressure and releasing fuel. We started implementing a plan once everything was under control. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was notified and indicated they would be sending a representative down on Sunday night. On Monday, we all met to come up with a more contingent plan. Between Sunday and Monday morning, 75 percent of the product was picked up, and by Wednesday it was at 98 percent with the storm system completely cleaned out. We will go back to the site tomorrow to have booms set in place as instructed by EPA. We will monitor it through the next few weeks and Duke will be monitoring until next spring. The EPA is closely watching and the State is aware of it.

**Blair Hinkle** thanked Pete Duffy for his efforts, coordination, and response to this emergency.

#### **4. Stormwater Program Financial and Rate Modeling Updates**

**Wenju Zhang** (*Financial Manager*) provided the Commission with a presentation on the Financial Rate Modeling program. The presentation overview consists of:

- *Key Components of Financial Model* – Rate analysis, operating revenue and expenses, fund balance reserves, PAYGO/Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding levels, CIP expenditure projections, and revenue/expense assumptions;
- *Components of Financial Policies* – Program/background history, financial/rate model, CIP fund balance/reserves and references;
- *Operating and CIP Financial Updates* – FY04-FY17 operating revenues and expenses, FY04-FY17 CIP funding (\$104.2 million) and expenditures (\$63.6 million), and current CIP financial snapshot encumbrance and available budget equaling \$41.99 million; and,
- *Current Financial-related Priorities* - Review Utility Fee Rate Modeling for FY19 and beyond, finalize financial policies, work with the Stormwater team to finalize anticipated CIP capacity and CIP output projections using existing budgetary resources coupled with future planned budgetary resources, and begin preparing FY19 budget.

**Blair Hinkle** pointed out that our finances are monitored closely. Since the inception of the program, the first time a rate increase was done was in FY17. We don't want to get in a financial position where we go a long period of time without a rate increase and then have to do a big rate increase in order to maintain our level of service. We are planning out future small rate increases to keep our level of service consistent, to be responsive to our customers' needs, and to meet City management and Raleigh City Council's expectations.

#### **5. Regulatory Update: Flood Map Revisions**

**Ben Brown** stated today's presentation comes from a comment from the Commission several months ago on new preliminary Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps. The presentation recaps Raleigh's current regulations, floodway and floodway fringe, Raleigh's current and existing maps, preliminary map process, and discussion of the updated FEMA maps.

#### **6. Smart Cities Partnering Project with NCSU MBA 590 Student Team**

**Scott Bryant** remarked the City of Raleigh has a Smart Cities partnership with North Carolina State University's (NCSU) MBA Program and that the representatives from the program will provide an overview of their Smart Cities project. The team is seeking to develop strategies to increase involvement in stormwater management practices at the residential level by working on fee credit and cost share enhancements and communication strategies for the program. It's about the City working with industry and academic leaders, having engaged discussions, and sharing ideas.

Stormwater may be one of the first examples of working with NCSU in a collaborative way on a real project just as this.

**Tim Burr** (NCSU) explained the project is a management strategy and hands-on practicum. We partner with Stormwater Management in improving adoption of stormwater management practices, coming up with different methodologies for reaching residential communities, and gaining residential community assistance with the stormwater program. The program has two major sections: (1) The analysis piece, which would be looking at political/economic influences, social/technology aimed at how it impacts willingness of residents to adopt independent stormwater management practice, and (2) How do we turn that knowledge and pair it with some goals, success factors, and turn the ideas into a actionable strategy that we can work with. We are zooming in on adoption by residents. **Keith Compson** (NCSU) added they focused on funding associated with the Stormwater Quality Cost Share Program for residents and businesses. They noticed it's well funded but it does not seem to have the volume, so this is where they would fit in and build that awareness. They have resources, but need to find a target market and where to increase the awareness and focus on the particular demographics. They have identified four characteristics of a location (*outlined in agenda packet*). They are looking for feedback from the Commission on where we would find a market like that and how they can better serve the Commission to get residents on board.

#### **Discussion:**

**Mr. Senior** replied the funds are available for usage, but we need to find:

- Those that are interested;
- Those with devices and what motivated them to get it;
- How to get others on board;
- If the cost share percentage motivates them; and,
- Who can buy into the cost share (*residential/commercial/developers/green communities*) and their reasoning for participating.

**Tim Burr** asked the Commission when reviewing projects have they noticed any common characteristics in terms of location and people.

**Mr. Senior** said it appears to be people that take a personal interest in water quality, and those who are willing to spend a certain amount of money to make it happen.

**Ms. Durso** asked staff when people come in how are they aware of these types of projects. **Kevin Boyer** said staff started asking participants how they found out about the program. Also, they found out about the program through communications initiative (*web site, social media*) and by visiting community groups. **Kristin Freeman** added that she's planning on doing a survey of completed projects so we can find out how they found out about the program.

**Keith Compson** asked when the program was created what was the end goal. **Mr. Senior** replied there were three purposes in mind when created: (1) Opportunity for retrofits, (2) Credit system for those with ponds, cisterns, etc., and (3) Public education awareness for water quality.

**Tim Burr** mentioned that it appears that Stormwater Management is going to a tiered structure.

**Mr. Starr** commented that he's excited about the tiered application approval process. He feels you will get a smaller and more densely populated area involved. **Blair Hinkle** added that the new approach offers a more user-friendly experience to participates and creates and more inviting program that gets people beyond the first hurdle.

**Tim Burr** asked what does it mean to have a successful program. **Blair Hinkle** replied the program would be a success if two conditions are met: (1) More interest in the program and more willingness to participate than we have money, and (2) The projects being built are high quality projects that have significant water quality benefits.

**Ms. Fleischmann** mentioned that it goes back to awareness and have you considered partnering with realtor associations. **Keith Compson** said they had not considered it, but thinking in terms of a marketing strategy for products, it's a fantastic channel to partner on something like this.

**Jim Alberque** (*GIS Manager*) said the United States Department of Transportation (*USDOT*) came up with an opportunity for one city to take all beyond traffic smarter cities with a \$50 million grant opportunity. NCSU reached out to the City to provide a proposal and we came up with how we leverage technology sensors and analytics to improve the lives of our citizens through advanced transportation, etc. He gave a brief presentation on what is smart cities, partnerships, collaboration, missed grants, technology, mobility, scenario development, engagement (*citizen*), a vibrant civic tech community, project (*FEMA remapping*), open data and collaboration, and integrating technology with normal interactions.

7. **Drainage Assistance Project – (Waxhaw Court)**

**Dale Hyatt** provided a presentation to the Commission on the one project up for review and recommendation under the new policy.

Estimated Project Costs	
6109 Waxhaw Court Drainage Improvement	<b>\$73,000</b>
FY18 Project Funds Approved to Date	<b>\$665,000</b>
Total Estimated Project Costs This Period	<b>\$73,000</b>
FY18 Budget	<b>\$1,250,000</b>
FY18 Remaining DA Funds	<b>\$522,000</b>

**Mr. Bostic** wanted to know if you could install the new pipe to a deeper elevation. **Dale Hyatt** said currently the outlet of the pipe is not deep, so there is enough fall between the area and the pond.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Carper** made a motion to approve the project and **Mr. Senior** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. **Other Business**

**Blair Hinkle** informed the Commission that staff is working on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) renewal application. We are working on comments from both the City Attorney and staff. There will be upcoming meetings with the State to discuss permit provisions.

**Adjournment:** **Mr. Webb** made a motion to adjourn and **Mr. Carper** seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Suzette Mitchell